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gravelly margins of lakes and pools where it is ordinarily covered with water. Gray's Manual gives June and July as its flowering season, but I have never seen it even in bud before August, and I do not think it is in pod (and therefore in the best state for examination and identification) before September.

ANNIE TRUMBULL SLOSSON.

Immediate Influence of Crossing or Hybridizing on Fruits and Seeds.—Much writing, though few experiments, has been offered lately on this subject. Anxious to go, myself, over experiments recorded in the early part of the century in relation to sterility in hybrid *Verbascums*, I crossed *Verbascum Blattaria* with *V. Thapsus* the past summer. I need not go over the precautions taken to prevent the use of self pollen—every one of experience knows how to make these precautions absolutely certain in their results. Again, I may note that the seeds of these two species are very distinct as seen under a lens. *Thapsus* has gray seeds, which taper as if they were the ends of corn-cobs—those of *Blattaria* are dark brown, and in form as if they came from the middle portion of an ear of corn. The hybrid seed-vessel and the hybrid seeds were exactly those of its female parent, *V. Blattaria*. I have plants growing, and shall have to wait another year to know if they are sterile, but that is another question. But as we know that there is an immediate effect on the seed in crossing in Indian corn, the *Verbascum* experiment simply shows one more case where there is none.

THOMAS MEEHAN.

Teratological.—I have seen, this year, a common cooking-bean with three cotyledons; also, within a few days, a horsechestnut bur containing three perfect seeds.

W. W. BAILEY.

Rudbeckia.—I see by Dr. Gray's Synopsis, just received, that what I figured as *Rudbeckia fulgida* in my Flowers and Ferns he regards as *R. speciosa*. What I have said about *R. fulgida* in my note on page 94 of the BULLETIN refers to his *speciosa*.

THOMAS MEEHAN.

Synspermy in the Horsechestnut.—After sending a note lately upon a three-seeded horsechestnut, I found those with two seeds so common as to be unworthy of mention. So perhaps is the case I cited. Now, however, I can record a greater rarity, viz., a complete union of two seeds into one, the attachment being at the hilum. As I wish to preserve the specimen, I have not dis severed the parts to ascertain whether the union is by more than the integuments, but it looks as if it were. Under *Synspermy*, Dr. M. T. Masters, in a footnote, gives the case of *Æsculus Hippocastanum*, but considers the phenomenon unusual.

Providence, R. I.

W. W. BAILEY.

Note on the May-Apple.—Prof. T. C. Porter kindly sends me a copy of the *Botanical Gazette*, 1877, No. 9, describing essentially the

same variations of growth shown in Fig. 9 of my notes (BULLETIN, p. 63). The figure of his aphyllous form would indicate an abortion of the leaves, there being a distinction made between stem and peduncle in the figure. In my specimen this was not so. The various forms were not accounted for by abortion of leaves—the occurrence of three-leaved forms would preclude that—but by the flower not being preceded by the same number of leaves, these varying from 3 to 0. Perhaps Prof. Porter's aphyllous form indicates that the leaves were *potentially* present.

AUG. F. FOERSTE.

Proliferation in Phleum.—While driving in New Hampshire early in October I found a curious proliferous specimen of *Phleum pratense*. The spike was fully an inch thick, with tufts of spreading green leaves. A week later, in Massachusetts, I found a second specimen, with the same development, and a few days afterwards, in Connecticut, still another.

ANNIE TRUMBULL SLOSSON.

Note on Sphaerella polystigma, E. & E. (BULL. TORR. BOT. CLUB Vol. x., p. 127.)—This species has also been found at Newfield, N. J., on fallen leaves of *Quercus coccinea*, and a recent examination of these specimens, which were collected in the summer of 1883, shows that the endochrome of the sporidia becomes at length divided close to the narrow end of the spore, forming a pseudo-septum. This character was not noticed in the fresh specimens, but possibly may have been overlooked, though it is not by any means unusual for spores which are at first continuous to finally become septate, and especially so in those which are at first nucleate; so that two nuclei indicate the probable appearance of a septum; three nuclei of two septa; four, of three, and so on; a single septum appearing between the adjacent nuclei; and this fact is not to be lost sight of in estimating the value of genera founded on the septation of the spores.

The measurement of the sporidia (10-13x3.5-4 μ) was accidentally omitted.

J. B. ELLIS.

Wanted.—Any one having a perfect copy of Michaux's *Sylva* may hear of a purchaser upon stating terms to the editor of the BULLETIN.

Errata.—In Dr. Britton's article, in the August number of the BULLETIN, the following errata occur, and should be corrected as follows:

Under *Cyperus Buckleyi*, for "spikelets 15 lines wide" read "1.5 line wide." Under *Cyperus articulatus*, "spikelets 1-15 inches long" read "1-1.5 inch long," and for "showing" read "forming." On page 86, bottom line, and on page 87, line 20, read Nees for Rees.

On page 98, line 21, for "mode" read "made," and in line 34 for 1885 read 1884; on page 100, lines 30 and 31, the phrase beginning with "but" and ending with "*Empetrum*" should be enclosed in parenthesis. On page 105, line 4 from bottom, for 1857 read 1837.